

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 302330
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SCS-06 CA-01 PPT-01 H-01 HA-05
/028 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:BSKIRKPATRICK:IW
APPROVED BY AF:WCHARROP
L/SCA:RDALTON (INFO)
SCS:EPOWERS/NPELLETREAU (INFO)
CA:PMURPHY (INFO)
PPT:FRANDO (INFO)
-----102506 200733Z /11
R 200118Z DEC 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY COTONOU

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, DM, US

SUBJECT: BENIN - DETENTION OF U.S. CITIZENS - TRAVEL

REF: A) COTONOU 1812 B) STATE 281540 C) COTONOU 1878

1. PURSUANT TO CONVERSATION BETWEEN DEPUTY ASSISTANT
SECRETARY HARROP AND AMBASSADOR BOYA REFTEL B DEPARTMENT
FORWARDED FOLLOWING NOTE TO AMBASSADOR BOYA ON DECEMBER 13.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

THE SECRETARY OF STATE PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO
HIS EXCELLENCY THE AMBASSADOR OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF BENIN AND HAS THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE ASSURANCES
GIVEN TO DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS
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HARROP AS STATED BELOW.

NO AMERICANS TRAVELING IN BENIN WILL BE ARRESTED
ARBITRARILY AND HELD WITHOUT CHARGE.

IN THE EVENT AN AMERICAN CITIZEN IS SUSPECTED BY
THE BENINESE AUTHORITIES, HE WILL EITHER BE PROMPTLY

ESCORTED TO THE BORDER OR TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. IN
ALL SUCH CASES THE AMERICAN EMBASSY WILL BE NOTIFIED

IMMEDIATELY IN ACCORDANCE WITH CUSTOMARY INTERNATIONAL
LAW AND PRACTICE.

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTRY
OF INTERIOR OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN FULLY
CONCUR IN THIS COMMITMENT.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE REQUESTS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN CONVEY THE ABOVE ASSURANCES
IN WRITING TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN COTONOU. END TEXT.

3. TRAVEL ADVISORY STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION. DEPART-
MENT NOTES THAT ARREST OF BENNETT REFTEL C INVOLVES
CUSTOMS DUTIES PROBLEMS AND THAT BENNETT FREQUENTLY
TRAVELS TO BENIN. THIS WOULD NOT APPEAR TO FALL IN
ARBITRARY ARREST OF UNSUSPECTING TOURIST CATEGORY FOR
WHICH TRAVEL ADVISORY IS DESIGNED. REQUEST POST COMMENT.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
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Drafter: BSKIRKPATRICK:IW
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Film Number: D770473-0746
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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TAGS: CASC, DM, US
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